

Appl. No. : 10/578,163
Filed : May 4, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, please add the following heading before the first full paragraph of the application which begins on line [5]:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, please add the following sub-heading before line [5]:

Field of the Invention

On page 1, please delete the second paragraph that begins on line 15, and replace it with the following:

Description of the Related Art

Hair pieces used in modern hair fashion and hair cosmetics are applied for hair extension or for hair shaping, but also for obtaining a special esthetical effect like e.g. a colour effect, volume effect etc. Hair pieces usually made from artificial hair or natural hair must meet many different requirements. These hair pieces must be easily attachable and also be easily removable and also must provide high wearing comfort to the user. Furthermore the hair pieces must be shape retaining, durable and weatherproof and also shampoo etc. resistant. It is known to shape a modern hair piece as a relatively thin, broad and flat hair bundle which at the position of the first free end (hair tops) is provided transversely with a known weaving band, firstly for mutual interconnection of the hairs and secondly for obtaining a surface for interconnection with the basic hair. Moreover the weaving band may be made from natural ~~or~~ artificial hair, but also from a strip/sheet shaped flexible plastic strip. Such a hair piece with weaving band which may be easily connected and removed from the basic hair or natural hair of a person is also called a weft. Such a hair piece is attached to the basic hair by conducting a number of basic hairs or a knot of hair through openings in the weaving band and interconnecting these knots of hairs. These openings are provided between the weaving elements connected to the hairs of the hair bundle.

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On page 2, please add the following subheading before line [8]:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 3, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 5 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Particularly, connection openings are ~~being~~ provided between the weaving elements, and preferably the connection openings are ~~being~~ formed by weaving band loops or by joined weaving elements. Advantageously, by adding a second hair bundle to the well know hair piece consisting of one hair bundle provided with connection openings in the waving band, a new hair piece is obtained comprising two hair bundles which may be economically and easily attached into the basic hair.

On page 3, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 13 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

In a special embodiment the connection openings are ~~being~~ formed by the free space which is present between the connected weaving band(s). This embodiment can be economically and easily made because of the connection elements now formed between the interconnected weaving band(s) making the provision of connection element into the weaving band not necessary.

On page 3, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 26 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Particularly the head ends of the piece of weaving band are abuttingly positioned with respect to each other without overlapping each other. Preferably the head ends of the piece of weaving band are interconnected by means of a stitched seam extending transversely over both weaving band ends. By these measures the wearing comfort is not decreased because of thickening of the band and also releasing, hanging open or fraying of the head ends is prevented.

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On page 4, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 1 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

In a particular embodiment the hair piece comprises two hair bundles whereby the first hair bundle is connected to a first weaving band and ~~that~~ the second hair bundle is connected to a second weaving band. In an equivalent way the hair piece according to the invention is obtained by connecting two single hair bundles by means of connection elements.

On page 4, please delete please delete the paragraph beginning at line 11 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Particularly ~~that~~ the weaving bands of the hair bundles are interconnected with their upper sides, in other words, with the sides opposite of the hair bundle, by means of connection elements provided transversely at a regular distance. Preferably the upper sides of the weaving bands are transversely abuttingly positioned with respect to each other. By only interconnecting the upper sides of the weaving bands the hair piece may be easily unfolded for connection into basic hair and subsequently easily folded up. By positioning the upper sides abuttingly close to each other only short simple connection elements need to be fixed between the weaving band(s).

On page 4, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 22 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

In ~~a special~~ another embodiment ~~repeatedly~~ two connection elements are repeatedly provided at a short distance with respect to each other. This gives the advantage that a hair piece may be shortened by cutting the weaving band between both neighbouring connection elements so that two hair pieces are obtained which have non fraying not open hanging weaving bands.

On page 4, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 28 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Particularly the hair bundle consists of small groups of hairs provided with interspaces having little or no hair. Preferably groups of hairs have a lateral dimension (a) between about 2 and 4

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mm, the interspaces (22) having a lateral dimension (b) between about ~~0.5~~ 0.5 and 3 mm. In this way the basic hair and the hair

On page 5, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 4 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

A In a particular embodiment the hair piece is laterally provided on both sides of one or more groups of hairs with less hair or hair volume. The wearing comfort is increased and especially the visibility of the closed loop embodiment is decreased because in the basic hair a local concentration of hair originating from the hair piece is prevented.

On page 5, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 10 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

In a ~~special~~ another embodiment the hair bundles are each provided with hairs of different length and/or colour or hue. Preferably the difference in length between the hairs of the hair bundles varies between about 2 ~~en~~ and 12 cm. With these measures a natural integration of the hair piece into the basic hair is obtained in particular by applying on top of each other hair bundles of different length.

On page 6, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 1 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

By connecting the hair piece in a folded open position with the basic hair and subsequently folding up the hair piece, a thorough mixing is obtained between the hair of the hair piece and the basic hair, whereby the parts that should not be visible like e.g. the interconnected knots of basic hair are hidden between the hair bundles of the hair piece.

On page 7, please delete the paragraph beginning at line [1] and replace it with the following:

The invention with now be described by means of an embodiment shown in ~~of~~ the drawings

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

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On page 7, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 20 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

In Fig. 1 is shown in detail how hair piece 1 according to the invention is connected in basic hair 6 of the hairstyle of a person, in such a way that the hair bundles 3 are configured as ~~an~~ a hair extension like a tail.

On page 8, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 1 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Moreover a ~~suitable~~ suitable amount of basic hairs may be conducted through said connection openings 4 and mutually interconnected on the back side of the weaving band 2 by means of a suitable method by using adhesive means, but also by means of a braiding, knotting, rolling or the like. As a result a temporary, durable however eventually easily removable connection between the hair piece and the basic hair will be formed, in such way that the hair piece is reusable and it offers at the same time a remarkable high wearing comfort to the user.

On page 8, please please delete the paragraph beginning at line 9 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

In Fig. 3 is shown the fast applicable hair piece 1 according to the invention, comprising two broad hair bundles (strips of hair) 3' and 3" each on the upper side provided with a weaving band 2', 2" connecting the free upper ends of all the hairs of the hair bundles into a compact unit. The hair piece 1 is shown in unfolded state with first hair bundle 3' connected with first weaving band 2' and second hair ~~bundles~~ bundle 3" connected with second weaving band 2". Both weaving bands 2', 2" are mutually interconnected by means of connection elements 12; in this example configured as 'zigzag' mounted connection cords. Openings 4' and 4" are formed by the free space available between the connection elements 12 and the upper side of the weaving bands 2' and 2". Two knots of basic hair 9', 9" are conducted through two adjacent connection openings

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4' and 4" and interconnected at a suitable distance of e.g. 2-3 cm from the openings 4', 4" by means of a suitable hair connection means 13, like a clamping element. Furthermore when needed once more knots of basic hair 9', 9" may be conducted through another free connection opening 4', 4" formed between the weaving elements 2', 2" and mutually interconnected to each other in order to fixedly and firmly connect the hair piece 1 with the basic hair.

On page 9, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 28 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Fig. 7 shows schematically an embodiment of the hair piece according to the invention whereby two hair bundles are formed by shaping a piece of weaving band into a closed loop. The outer ends or the head ends 30 of a piece of weaving band are interconnected such that a hair bundle 3' with weaving band is provided and a hair bundle 3" (not shown) with weaving band 2". Preferably the head ends 30 are abuttingly touching each other however without overlapping, so that as a result at the location where the head ends are connected no thickening in the weaving band 2' will occur so that the wearing comfort is not diminished ~~or~~ nor is the visibility of the hair piece 1 is increased. The connection between the head ends 30 may be provided with an additional reinforcement by means of an additional stitching seam 36 extending over both weaving band ends.

On page 10, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 7 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Furthermore Fig. 7 shows an easily adaptable embodiment of the hair piece on a short distance with respect to each other being provided with connection elements 35' configured between the weaving band (parts) 2', 2". ~~In stead~~ Instead of a single connection element like a stitching seam, double connection element 35', 35" are applied thereby offering the possibility to shorten the hair piece by cutting open the weaving band between the stitched seams 35', 35". As a result two hair pieces 1 are created, the first one with stitching seam 35', the second one with stitching seam 35" so that advantageously the outer ends of the cut open hair piece will not hang open or fray.

On page 10, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 16 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Moreover in Fig. 7 is shown the embodiment of hair piece 1 whereby groups of hairs 21, 34 are alternately provided with interspaces 22 with little or no hair. As a result the basic hair will mix very good with the hair of the hair piece 1 so that the visibility of the hair piece is reduced. Preferably the width g of a hair group has a value between 2 and 4 mm and the interspaces b are having a size between 0.5 and 3 mm (See Fig. 8). Furthermore Fig. 7 shows groups of hair 24 34 having less hair or hair volume. These groups 34 are laterally provided on the outer ends of hair piece 1 so that no thickening will occur locally in the basic hair and also the transition from basic hair to hair piece will be less visible.

On page 11, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 1 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Fig. 9 shows a hair piece 1 with two hair bundles and connected therewith weaving bands 2' ~~en~~ and 2", whereby the weaving band is configured by small weaving band bands 33', 33", 33"', 33"" provided with hair bundles. The small weaving bands are mutually transversely interconnected, with their head ends. The connection openings 33 are formed by the openings of the small weaving bands 33 so that as a result no connection elements need to be provided for configuring the connection openings. An intermediate form is also possible, whereby both the small weaving bands are interconnected and also connection elements are provided.

On page 11, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 20 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Fig. 11 shows an example of a hair piece 1 provided with hair bundles 3', 3" comprising hairs which are specially wavy or curly. Also hairs, groups of hairs 24 or hair bundles 3', 3" may be provided with a different colour or hue.

On page 12, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 1 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

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The method for attaching a hair piece into basic hair according to the invention comprises the following steps:

firstly hair piece 1 is completely unfolded such that the hair bundles are extending in a flat plane. This is done by displacing the free ends 23', 23" of the hair bundles in opposite ~~direction~~ directions in such a way that the hair bundles and the weaving band(s) 2', 2" connected therewith are extending in opposite directing with respect to each other;